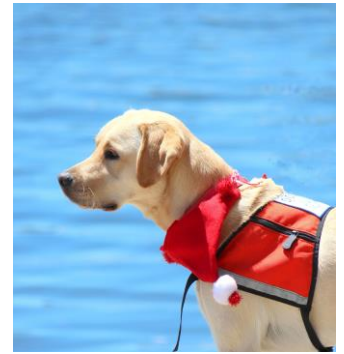


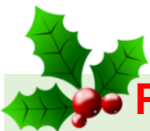
Paw Print

December 2015

The Quarterly Newsletter of Australian Support Dogs, Inc. (ASDOG)



*Wishing you Joy, Hope and the Wonder of Christmas,
and Peace and Happiness for 2016!
Thank you for your goodwill and support throughout the year.
Best wishes from the ASDOG Management Committee - and Kara!*



PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2015

I would like to thank everyone who has been involved throughout 2015. It has been a difficult year for ASDOG with the passing of Sheree, who is missed dearly. Last month saw the official launch of the Jade Project at Royal Rehab in Ryde, a partnership between the hospital, ASDOG and Sheree's family to honour Sheree's memory.

During 2015 ASDOG continued to support our graduate teams, and to raise and train dogs, most of whom will be ready to be placed with new recipients in 2016.

As well as our fundraising and festival events, this year has seen many new outreach partnerships focusing on public education. Spearheaded by Ann and Andrea, visits included the Dougherty Centre, Retirement Villages, Child Care Centres in Leichhardt and Glebe, Primary Schools in Eastwood, Lane Cove & Willoughby and the UNSW Disability Awareness Week, arranged by Declan and Danielle.

2016 will bring new changes, new recipients, and a new Training Coordinator. I would like to thank Gayl who will be leaving us in the New Year and wish her well.

And an extended thank you to Pauline, Fran, Joan, Marjorie and Michelle. Thank you also to families, partners, kids, recipients and dogs, puppy raisers and trainers, who together make ASDOG work.

THANK YOU EVERYONE AND ALL THE BEST FOR 2016.

Michelle Reid, ASDOG President



A Special Thank You to the **Belrose Bowling Club** for generously hosting our monthly committee meetings.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY...

Come and meet us at the Spinal Cord Injury Australia's Independence Expo 2016.

SCIA Independence Expo
15th-16th April 2016
Australian Technology Park, Sydney



TRIBUTE TO SHEREE & JADE: The Launch of The Jade Project - November 2015



The Jade Project is a legacy and memorial to one of Royal Rehab's former staff members - and ASDOG's wonderful Secretary - Sheree Hurley, who passed away, suddenly and unexpectedly, in May this year.

The Jade Project is Royal Rehab's tribute to Sheree (pictured left) whose courage and strength in the face of adversity is a lesson to us all.

Jade (pictured top right relaxing in the garden at the Royal Rehab function) was Sheree's faithful ASDOG Assistance Dog, her constant companion, a veteran in a wonderful enduring partnership.

Jade has now retired and lives with Sheree's parents, Pam and Michael (pictured right at Royal Rehab with Jade and Sheree's nieces).

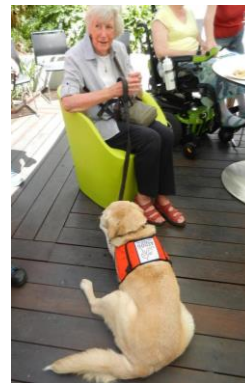


To celebrate the official launch of The Jade Project, ASDOG members, friends and recipients, together with their assistance dogs and dogs-in-training, were invited to a luncheon at Royal Rehab in Ryde. This was a fantastic opportunity to catch up and share memories.

As part of the Jade Project, ASDOG Assistance Dogs-in-Training visit the Spinal Injury Gym at Royal Rehab regularly and help the physios and patients with their exercise classes: they fetch balls, bags, bottles, keys and other items thrown by the patients or they accompany them on walks, etc.

Ivy with her trainer, Gayl, has been a welcome presence at the Gym for some time and it will be great experience for other assistance dogs-in-training as we look forward to fostering this partnership in the year ahead.

Photos at Royal Rehab launch, below left to right:
* ASDOGs Ivy, Charlie & Jade, mingling.
* Recipient Dan with ASDOG Charlie, & ASDOG trainer Pauline with Lucy.
* Marjorie with retired ASDOG, Cassie
* ASDOG trainers Ann and Andrea with Heidi and Kara.



Royal Rehab is a specialist rehabilitation provider for people with injury or illness that has resulted in temporary or permanent disability. They offer on-site and at-home rehabilitation for brain and spinal cord injury. Their lifestyle support services provide long-term supported accommodation, and a range of other services to support the lifestyles of people with disability.

To all our wonderful donors, members, supporters and volunteers - thank you so very much.

♥ A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL ♥

